

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method for transferring data, the method comprising:
 - 2 (a) reading, from an input record, a recorded unique device
 - 3 identification and recorded device data for a device;
 - 4 (b) searching an index for an enduring unique device
 - 5 identification matching the recorded unique device identification; and,
 - 6 (c) updating the index with the recorded device data.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1 wherein the recorded device data includes a
- 2 recorded usage data.
- 1 3. The method of claim 2 further including:
 - 2 (a) reading an enduring usage data from an enduring record in
 - 3 the index having enduring unique device identification matching the recorded
 - 4 unique device identification; and,
 - 5 (b) calculating a difference in usage data from the enduring
 - 6 usage data and the recorded usage data.
- 1 4 The method of claim 1 wherein updating the index with the
- 2 recorded device data includes replacing enduring device data from the index
- 3 with the recorded device data.
- 1 5 The method of claim 1 wherein updating the index with the
- 2 recorded device data includes updating enduring device data from an enduring
- 3 record in the index having enduring unique device identification matching the
- 4 recorded unique device identification.

1 6. The method of claim 1 further including, responsive to a failure to
2 find a match to the recorded unique device identification in the index, creating in
3 the index an enduring record for the device.

1 7. The method of claim 1 further including tracking updates to the
2 index.

1 8. A system for transferring data, the system comprising:
2 (a) an input record for a device, the input record having a
3 recorded unique device identification and recorded device data;
4 (b) a record reader configured to read, from the input record,
5 the recorded unique device identification and the recorded device data for the
6 device;
7 (c) an index having at least one enduring record, each enduring
8 record having an enduring unique device identification;
9 (d) an inspector configured to search the index for one of the
10 enduring unique device identifications matching the recorded unique device
11 identification; and,
12 (e) an updater configured to update the index with the recorded
13 device data.

1 9. The system of claim 8 wherein the recorded device data includes a
2 recorded usage data.

1 10. The system of claim 9 wherein the at least one enduring record
2 further includes enduring device data and the enduring device data includes an
3 enduring usage data and further including:
4 (a) an index reader configured to read the enduring usage data
5 from the enduring record having the enduring unique device identification
6 matching the recorded unique device identification; and,

7 (b) a calculator configured to calculate a difference in usage
8 data from the enduring usage data and the recorded usage data.

1 11 The system of claim 8 wherein the updater includes a recorder
2 configured to replace enduring device data from the index with the recorded
3 device data.

1 12 The system of claim 8 wherein the at least one enduring record
2 further includes enduring device data and the updater is further configured to
3 update the enduring device data from the enduring record having the enduring
4 unique device identification matching the recorded unique device identification.

1 13. The system of claim 8 further including an inserter configured to
2 respond to a failure to find a match to the recorded unique device identification
3 in the index by creating, in the index, an enduring record for the device.

1 14. The system of claim 8 further including a transaction log
2 configured to track updates to the index.

1 15. A program storage device readable by a computer, tangibly
2 embodying a program, applet, or instructions executable by the computer to
3 perform method steps for transferring data, the method steps comprising:

- 4 (a) reading, from an input record, a recorded unique device
5 identification and recorded device data for a device;
- 6 (b) searching an index for an enduring unique device
7 identification matching the recorded unique device identification; and,
- 8 (c) updating the index with the recorded device data.

1 16. The program storage device of claim 15 wherein the recorded
2 device data includes a recorded usage data and wherein the method steps
3 further include:

4 (a) reading an enduring usage data from an enduring record in
5 the index having enduring unique device identification matching the recorded
6 unique device identification; and,

7 (b) calculating a difference in usage data from the enduring
8 usage data and the recorded usage data.

1 17. The program storage device of claim 15 wherein the method step
2 of updating the index with the recorded device data includes replacing enduring
3 device data from the index with the recorded device data.

1 18. The program storage device of claim 15 wherein the method step
2 of updating the index with the recorded device data includes updating enduring
3 device data from an enduring record in the index having enduring unique device
4 identification matching the recorded unique device identification.

1 19. The program storage device of claim 15 wherein the method steps
2 further include, responsive to a failure to find a match to the recorded unique
3 device identification in the index, creating in the index an enduring record for the
4 device.

1 20. The program storage device of claim 15 wherein the method steps
2 further include tracking updates to the index.